1	WIIDTERWI VACANCIES IN THE
2	LEGISLATURE
3	2002 GENERAL SESSION
4	STATE OF UTAH
5	Sponsor: Ralph Becker
6	This act modifies provisions of the Election Code concerning filling midterm vacancies in the
7	Legislature.
8	This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:
9	AMENDS:
10	20A-1-503, as last amended by Chapter 377, Laws of Utah 1998
11	20A-8-401, as last amended by Chapter 78, Laws of Utah 2001
12	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
13	Section 1. Section 20A-1-503 is amended to read:
14	20A-1-503. Midterm vacancies in the Legislature.
15	(1) As used in this section, ["central committee" means: (a) the state central committee,
16	when the legislative district encompasses more than one county; and (b) the county central
17	committee, when the legislative district is entirely within one county] "party liaison" means the
18	political party officer designated to serve as a liaison with the lieutenant governor on all matters
19	relating to the political party's relationship with the state as required by Section 20A-8-401.
20	(2) When a vacancy occurs for any reason in the office of representative in the Legislature
21	the governor shall fill the vacancy by:
22	(a) appointing the person who meets the qualifications for the office whose name was
23	submitted by the [central committee] party liaison of the same political party of the prior
24	officeholder if the process used to nominate the replacement was the standard process used by that
25	political party to select a candidate without a primary election;
26	(b) appointing a person who meets the qualifications for the office from two persons
27	whose names were submitted by the [central committee] party liaison of the same political party



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of the prior officeholder if the process used to nominate those persons was the standard process used by that political party to select candidates for the primary election ballot; or

- (c) appointing a person who meets the qualifications for the office from three persons [nominated] whose names were submitted by the [central committee] party liaison of the same political party as the prior officeholder.
- (3) (a) When a vacancy occurs for any reason in the office of senator in the Legislature, it shall be filled for the unexpired term at the next regular general election.
 - (b) The governor shall fill the vacancy until the next regular general election by:
- (i) appointing the person who meets the qualifications for the office whose name was submitted by the [central committee] party liaison of the same political party of the prior officeholder if the process used to select that person was the standard process used by that political party to nominate the replacement without a primary election;
- (ii) appointing a person who meets the qualifications for the office from two persons whose names were submitted by the [central committee] party liaison of the same political party of the prior officeholder if the process used to nominate those persons was the standard process used by that political party to select candidates for the primary election ballot; or
- (iii) appointing a person who meets the qualifications for the office from three persons [nominated] whose names were submitted by the [central committee] party liaison of the same political party as the prior officeholder.
 - Section 2. Section **20A-8-401** is amended to read:

20A-8-401. Registered political parties -- Bylaws.

- (1) (a) Each registered state political party shall file a copy of its constitution and bylaws with the lieutenant governor by January 1, 1995.
- (b) Each new or unregistered state political party that seeks to become a registered political party under the authority of this chapter shall file a copy of its proposed constitution and bylaws at the time it files its registration information.
- (c) Each registered state political party shall file revised copies of its constitution or bylaws with the lieutenant governor within 15 days after the constitution or bylaws are adopted or amended.
- (2) Each state political party, each new political party seeking registration, and each unregistered political party seeking registration shall ensure that its constitution or bylaws contain:

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59	(a) provisions establishing party organization, structure, membership, and governance that
60	include:
61	(i) a description of the position, selection process, qualifications, duties, and terms of each
62	party officer and committees defined by constitution and bylaws;
63	(ii) a provision requiring a designated party officer to serve as liaison with the lieutenant
64	governor on all matters relating to the political party's relationship with the state;
65	(iii) a description of the requirements for participation in party processes;
66	(iv) the dates, times, and quorum of any regularly scheduled party meetings, conventions,
67	or other conclaves; and
68	(v) a mechanism for making the names of delegates, candidates, and elected party officers
69	available to the public shortly after they are selected;
70	(b) a procedure for selecting party officers that allows active participation by party
71	members;
72	(c) a procedure for selecting party candidates at the federal, state, and county levels that
73	allows active participation by party members;
74	(d) (i) a procedure for selecting electors who are pledged to cast their votes in the electoral
75	college for the party's candidates for president and vice president of the United States; and
76	(ii) a procedure for filling vacancies in the office of presidential elector because of death,
77	refusal to act, failure to attend, ineligibility, or any other cause;
78	(e) a procedure for submitting names to the governor to fill midterm vacancies in the office
79	<u>of:</u>
80	(i) representative in the Legislature consistent with Subsection 20A-1-503(2)(c); and
81	(ii) senator in the Legislature consistent with Subsection 20A-1-503(3)(b)(iii);
82	[(e)] (f) a provision requiring the governor and lieutenant governor to run as a joint ticket;
83	[(f)] (g) a procedure for replacing party candidates who die, become disabled, or are
84	disqualified before a primary or regular general election;
85	[(g)] (h) provisions governing the deposit and expenditure of party funds, and governing
86	the accounting for, reporting, and audit of party financial transactions;
87	[(h)] (i) provisions governing access to party records;
88	[(i)] (j) a procedure for amending the constitution or bylaws that allows active participation
89	by party members or their representatives; and

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[(j)] (k) a process for resolving grievances against the political party.

Legislative Review Note as of 1-31-02 11:56 AM

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A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel